

Clearwater NF Forest Plan

A. Forest Plan Goals (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter II, pg. II-2)

5. Wildlife

- a. Provide habitat for viable populations of all indigenous wildlife species.
- b. Maintain and, where appropriate, improve the winter and summer habitat over time to support increased populations of big-game wildlife species
- c. Limit motorized use on selected big-game range to minimize effects on big game

6. Threatened and Endangered Species

Manage habitat to contribute to recovery of each threatened and endangered species occurring on the Forest, including the grizzly bear, gray wolf, and bald eagle.

Other non-wildlife specific resource areas with wildlife associated Forest Goals

3. Wilderness and Unroaded

- d. Maintain the natural integrity of those lands designated for unroaded management, and provide the management of their key resources (dispersed recreation, *big-game summer range*, anadromous and resident fishery habitat) found within each area

14. Other Agency Plans and Indian Tribes

- a. Work with other Federal, State, and local agencies and other organizations to achieve mutual goals and objectives.
- b. Work closely with area Indian tribes to achieve mutual goals and objectives and insure "trust responsibilities" of Indian Treaties are honored.

B. Forest Plan Objectives (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter II, pg. II-4)

6. Wildlife and Fish

- a. Rehabilitate by prescribed burning a minimum of 1,300 acres of key big game winter range per year through the first decade to meet elk population goals. (Also see Management Areas C3 and C4.) (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter II, pg. II-5)
- b. Provide adequate elk winter range to support 19,900 elk by 2005.
- c. Restore selected, presently degraded fish habitat through habitat improvement projects designed to achieve stated objectives for particular streams by 1997. (See Water Quality Standards and Management Area M2.) (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter II, pg. II-5)

Other non-wildlife specific resource areas with wildlife associated Forest Objectives

12. Roads

- a. Incorporate transportation planning into all project and area analysis to determine road construction/reconstruction needs, appropriate road standards, and mitigation measures needed to minimize adverse effects.
- c. Implement a road management program that is responsive to resource protection needs, water quality goals, and public concerns. Miles of road left open to public use will be that amount necessary to meet public needs and resource management objectives.

17. Integrated Pest Management

- b. Emphasize natural resource management techniques and practices which will prevent pest outbreaks from occurring whenever possible.

C. Research Needs (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter II, pg. II-15)

5. Wildlife

- a. Evaluate the long-term effects of prescribed fire in game winter range habitat.
- b. Develop and validate a methodology for predicting elk winter carrying capacity.

- c. Validate locally the Guidelines for Evaluating and Managing Elk Habitat in Northern Idaho.
- d. Develop and validate a methodology for selecting and evaluating old growth habitat.

E. Forest Plan Standards (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter II, pg. II-20)

5. Wildlife and Fish (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter II, pg. II-23)

Elk	a. Provide the proper mix of hiding and thermal cover, forage, and protection from harassment during critical periods on big-game summer range (primarily elk). in accordance with criteria contained in the Guidelines for Evaluating and Managing Summer Elk Habitat in Northern Idaho."										
Elk	b. Rehabilitate key big-game winter range to meet elk population goals.(Also see Management Areas C3 and C4).										
Pileated woodpecker, Northern goshawk	c. Provide habitat for snag-dependent indicator species (pileated woodpecker and goshawk) in accordance with guidelines provided in Appendix H.										
Old Growth Species	d. Provide for old-growth dependent wildlife species by: (1) Maintaining at least 10 percent of the Forest (including Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness) in old-growth habitat.										
Old Growth Species	(2) Selecting at least 5 percent of each approximate 10,000 acre watershed (timber compartment) or combination of smaller watersheds (sub-compartments) within forested non-wilderness areas to manage as old-growth habitat.										
Elk	e. Manage use of motorized vehicles off roads, on roads, and on trails in areas of key wildlife habitat features such as elk licks, wallows, and calving areas to accomplish habitat objectives.										
Wolf	f. Provide an adequate amount of habitat to support the Clearwater Forest's assigned goal of ten endangered gray wolves as based on recommendations from the Northern Rocky Mountain Recovery Team. (See Regional Guide.)										
Wolf, bald eagle, grizzly bear.	g. Cooperate with future recovery efforts on behalf of the gray wolf, bald eagle, and grizzly bear.										
Bald eagle	h. Manage active identified bald eagle nesting, roosting, and perching sites to maintain their use.										
T&E Species	i. Establish specific population or habitat recovery objectives for T &E species when sufficient biological information is available to do so. This is required in the absence of a formal recovery plan. (See FSM 2621.2.)										
Wildlife and Fish	j. Cooperate with Idaho Fish and Game, Indian tribes, and other agencies in the management of wildlife and fish habitat.										
MIS	k. The following wildlife and fish species have been selected as indicator species on the Clearwater National Forest (Rationale for selection is displayed in the Environmental Impact Statement):										
	<table> <tr> <td>Bald Eagle</td><td>Pileated Woodpecker</td></tr> <tr> <td>Gray Wolf</td><td>Northern Goshawk</td></tr> <tr> <td>Grizzly Bear</td><td>American Marten</td></tr> <tr> <td>Elk</td><td>Belted Kingfisher</td></tr> <tr> <td>Moose</td><td>White-tailed Deer</td></tr> </table>	Bald Eagle	Pileated Woodpecker	Gray Wolf	Northern Goshawk	Grizzly Bear	American Marten	Elk	Belted Kingfisher	Moose	White-tailed Deer
Bald Eagle	Pileated Woodpecker										
Gray Wolf	Northern Goshawk										
Grizzly Bear	American Marten										
Elk	Belted Kingfisher										
Moose	White-tailed Deer										

Other non-wildlife specific resource areas with wildlife associated Forest Standards

4. Wilderness (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter II, pg. II-23)

- a. Manage existing Selway-Bitterroot wilderness in accordance with direction provided in Management Area BI in Chapter III.

7. Timber (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter II, pg. II-25)

Snag dependent species	c. Enhance firewood removal opportunities where compatible with management area direction.
Snag dependent species	d. Provide sources of firewood for commercial and individual use in conjunction with timber management practices.
Snag dependent species	e. Allow, after appropriate analysis, for salvage sanitation harvesting of timber stands which are substantially damaged by fire, windthrow, or Insect or disease In all management areas except those specifically designated unavailable for timber harvest (Management Areas B1, B2, M1).
Elk	j. Manage tree openings created by even-age timber harvest as follows:
Elk	(1) Size of openings - Openings created normally be 40 acres or less, see Regional Guide for exceptions:
All species	(2) Dispersal - The objective is to disperse openings so that adjacent stands represent at least three size classes, see Regional Guide;
	3) Duration of openings - consider an opening no longer an opening when the density and height of the vegetation and watershed conditions meet the resource management objectives of the area.
Elk	Big-Game Summer Range/Timber - In proposed E1 and E3 Management Areas, the minimum standard is to provide 25 percent elk habitat potential. New openings (regeneration cuts) can be planned adjacent to former openings as long as the former opening is certified as stocked and the area meets a minimum of 25 percent elk habitat potential after implementation of the proposed activity.
All species	The ID Team must assure that unit design optimizes wildlife of the management area. Other resource requirements and objectives such as visual, watershed, silvicultural, etc., also must be met as applicable. The dispersal of timber size class objectives in the Regional Guide must be met.
Elk	In C8S, the prescription must meet wildlife objectives (minimum of 75 percent elk habitat potential) and other resource requirements for the area as stated in the Forest Plan and Regional Guide to be planned and implemented. The ID Team must assure long-and short-term and dispersal objectives will be met.
Elk	Big-Game Winter Range/Timber (C4) - Objectives for big-game winter range are to optimize forage/cover ratios. Site specific analysis one by the ID Team will recommend the proper forage/cover ratio for an analysis area or project area. For example, clearcuts may be planned and implemented adjacent to former openings which do not yet meet the definition for thermal cover (a stand of trees with a closed canopy at least 30 feet tall) as long as the ID Team assures the proposal helps achieve or improve forage/cover objectives for the area. Other resource requirements and objectives such as visual, watershed, silvicultural, etc., also must be met as applicable. The dispersal of timber age class Objectives in the Regional Guide must be met.
Elk	In Management Areas M2, A4, and A6, wildlife objectives to be achieved are based on whether the area is summer or winter range. Other resource objectives usually have priority and must also be met. The ID Team will evaluate the proposals and specify that they meet the wildlife objectives for the area.

17. Potential Wild and Scenic Rivers (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter II, pg. II-38)

- c. Wildlife, Fish, and Habitat Management
 - (1) Wildlife Management - Nonstructural
 - (a) Potential Recreation and Scenic River Reaches

The following are methods that may be used for maintaining wildlife habitat.

- Hand
- Prescribed Fire

(2) Endangered, Threatened and Sensitive Species

(a) Potential Recreation, Scenic and Wild River Segments:

Refer to section of Forestwide standards and guidelines for direction on endangered, threatened and proposed sensitive species.